THE International Collector

and Victor Stamp News

March, 1912

Volume 2

Number 4

Editor and Publisher

Gordon H. Crouch

911 Dovercourt Rd.

TORONTO - - CANADA

PRIZE CONTEST

Take the words "THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECTOR" and see how many words you can make from them, being careful not to use the same letter more than it appears in the three words. Just to show you how easy it is to figure out the words, we give you an illustration in the following—hat, near, rent. Now as you see in these words, we have not used the same letter more than it appears in the three words.

After you have made out your list of words, send them to us, and 25 cents for six months subscription to "The International Collector" and your name will be immediately entered upon our books.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE LIST of prizes to be given

First Prize,	Good Stamps, catalogued at	$3.00
Second "	" " " "	1.50
Third "	" " " "	1.00
Fourth "	" " " "	50

The person sending the largest number of words wins first prize, and the person sending in the next largest number wins second prize, and so on. In case of a tie, the prize will be awarded to the person who sent us in their list of words the earliest, the date of post-mark when mailed, will be used in making our decision; so don't delay, but get busy and send in that list of words at once. YOU may win first prize, WHO KNOWS?

This contest closes April 30th, 1912, and the names of the winners will be published in the following issue. Address all communications regarding this contest to

G. H. CROUCH

911 Dovercourt Rd. Toronto, Canada

"The International Collector"

COMBINED WITH

"The Victor Stamp News"

AND

"The Dominion Philatelist"

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

G. H. CROUCH 911 Dovercourt Road

TORONTO CANADA

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VOLUME 2 MARCH 1912 NUMBER 4

UNIFICATION OF THE WEST INDIES.

The approaching completion of the Panama Canal, which will place the West Indies on one of the world's principal highways of commerce, has revived interest in the present condition and future outlook of the British West Indies and of British Guiana and Honduras. There are pessimists who declare that unless the British colonies and possessions in the West Indies are united to Canada they will inevitably become a part of the United States, as a result of commercial intimacy and their proximity to that country. Speaking generally, all movements for the inclusion of the West Indies in the Canadian political system are based primarily on the idea of saving the West Indies from absorption into the United States, and, secondarily, on the assumption that both Canada and the West Indies would greatly benefit by the wiping out of all Customs duties on their respective products, which are complementary and not competitive.

Mr. Joseph Rippon, a London financier intimately connected with the West Indies, has published a most interesting pamphlet on West Indian problems, under the title "Unification," in which he points out the difficulty of harmonizing the various governmental systems in the West Indies, ranging from Crown administration to almost complete local autonomy. He believes, however, that without impairing present constitutional rights the West Indies might be so unified under a central Council as to make possible a uniform tariff, better means of communication, a single central postal system, improved quarantine laws, and reciprocity with other British countries, especially Canada.

Mr. Rippon points out that "Canada could not deal effectively with the West Indies if each island required separate treatment, because its tariff differed from the others. The preference Canada could give us is to one and all alike, and therefore each and every one of the islands must be prepared with a common tariff and a schedule which will meet the views of the Finance Minister of Canada."

Public opinion in Canada is not at all favorable to the incorporation in the Dominion of the West Indies, with a population of over a million and a half—the great majority colored, and as yet unfitted for self-government—but Canadians would welcome such a unification of the West Indies as would enable the nego-

tiation of trade arrangements to be carried on with a central West Indian Council, instead of half a dozen small Governments with all their limitations and petty jealousies. A United West Indies in matters of trade and transportation would be a distinct step toward the strengthening of British power in the Caribbean Sea.

(To be continued.)

POSTAGE FOR REVENUE.

The "Australian Philatelist" reports an official letter from the Postmaster of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands in which he quotes a despatch of the High Commissioner authorizing him to deduct a commission of 10 per cent from remittances for stamps "from persons who are obviously dealers or collectors," the same to be "credited to Miscellaneous Revenue." Revenue, miscellaneous or otherwise and little matter how acquired, seems to be an important consideration with sundry miserable mud heaps in the Pacific and other parts of the world. Real governments regard it as bad form to commercialize their securities. In our own country we have laws which prohibit anyone in the employ of the Government dealing in stamps or selling them for more than their face value. This is as it should be. To permit anything else is to open the door to "graft" and unnecessary issues. We prophesy the appearance of freak issues in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, obtainable only from friends of the Postmaster.—S. S. & Co., Cir.

EDUCATIONAL SERIES—NO. 3.

Here and There in America and Oceania.

New Zealand was discovered by the Dutchman Tasman, and consists of the two large islands—North Island and South Island, and of the small Steward Island. The South Island is rich in gold. The climate is healthy, and the coasts are provided with good harbors. The forests furnish excellent timber for ship building. Wheat, maise and potatoes are extensively cultivated, and the whale and cachalot fisheries are somewhat important.

New Caledonia, discovered by Cook, lies East of Australia and belongs to the French. It is a volcanic Island surrounded by dangerous coral reefs, and is used by the French Government as a place of transportation for law breakers.

New South Wales was the first English colony in Australia.

Queensland was the first part of the Australian continent discovered. The continent of Australia was colonized first in 1787, when a penal settlement for convicts was formed in New South Wales. Victoria is the smallest of the Australian States.

The Republic of Brazil is the greatest State of South America. A list of its boundaries might be interesting, namely: On the northeast, the Atlantic; on the north, British Guiana, Venezuela and the Colombian Republic; on the west, Ecuaadr, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, the Argentine Republic, and Uruguay, and on the east, the Atlantic. Brazil is well watered by the Amazon and its tributaries, the Madeira and the Rio Negro, by the Para, and the Paraguay and Parana. A large proportion is still occupied by immense forests. There are also treeless plains, called small allanos, where immense herds of wild cattle roam. Brazil is rich in precious stones, gold and iron, its chief exports being coffee, sugar, cocoa, cotton, hides and beef, diamonds, gold and dye-woods. The trade of Brazil is very important. Its capital, Rio de Janeiro, is the largest city in South America. Brazil always belonged to Portugal, but since 1822 it has been an independent State, at first governed by an Emperor of the royal family of Portugal, but now as a republic.

The Argentine Republic consists of fourteen states and four territories. The greater portion of the country forms a part of the vast Pampas.

The Republic of Bolivia was so named after Bolivar, the great South American general, who finally defeated the Spaniards. Ecuador is so called from being under the equinoctial line.

The Colombian Republic, formerly known as the United States of Colombia, and previous to that as New Granada, consists of nine States and some Territories. Antioquia, Bolivar, Boyaca, Cauca, Cundinamarca, Magdalena, Santandar and Tolima are the names of these States. Panama, formerly a State, seceded some years ago, and is now an independent republic, and is considered to be under the especial care and protection (?) of her big kind northern brother, Uncle Sam ! ! !

Dutch Guiana, or Surinam, on the north coast of South America, is bounded on the east by French Guiana, on the south by Brazil, and on the west by British Guiana. The interior of this Colony is mountainous and still little known. The coast is very unhealthy. The chief object of culture is sugar cane. Its capital city, Paramaribo, carries on a considerable trade.

Venezuela exports coffee and cocoa of excellent quality (also earthquakes and revolutions every few years).

The English Colony of Bahamas consists of 380 islands.

The Island of Haiti consists of two separate States, the Republic of Hayti, situate on the western part of the island, with the capital of Port au Prince; and the Republic of Dominica, comprising the eastern part of the island, with the capital of San Domingo.

In Central America there are six independent republics, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador. Salvador is the smallest but the most densely people of the Central American republics.

The Empire of Mexico was conquered by Ferdinando Cortez in 1519, and continued subject to the Spanish Government until the year 1810, when the revolution took place. In 1822 Mexico was declared as an independent State by Spain. Mexico is a Federal Republic, consisting of twenty-nine States and one Territory, and of a Federal District with a capital. The chief objects of culture are maize, sugar, cotton, cocoa, indigo, coffee, bananas and cassada. Silver constitutes the great mineral wealth of Mexico, but gold, copper, iron and lead are also found there in abundance.

The English settlements in North America were commenced in 1607, when Sir Walter Raleigh established a small colony near the Chesapeake Bay, which he named Virginia, after the Virgin Queen of England, Elizabeth, then ruling. In 1776 the thirteen American Provinces having become involved in a dispute with the Parent State, proclaimed their independence, which, after a long and severe struggle, was acknowledged by England in 1783. Since that period many new States have been added to the Union.

Transvaal was founded by Dutchmen in 1852. In 1486 Bartholomew de Diaz discovered the Cape of Good Hope, and ten years later Vasco de Gama passed it on his way to the East. It was colonized by the Dutch, but afterwards ceded to the English.

The vas Empire of India was founded by London merchants in 1609, who formed the East India Company. Beginning with the first settlement of Surat, they gradually obtained other possessions till in 1858 the government was transferred to the British Crown. The various States and divisions of India may be roughly divided into three classes, namely, British possessions proper; the Tributary States, the princes of which control the internal affairs of their Dominions; and of Independent States; all these being to a greater or lesser extent under the control of the British Government.

The Philippine Islands, named after Philip II., King of Spain, were discovered by Magellan in 1551.

The Dutch East Indies consists of Java, Sumatra, Celebes, Sumbava, part of Borneo, and the Moluccas or Spice Islands.

THE POST CARD COLLECTOR.

She's got them from China and from Peru,
From Egypt, Japan and Honolulu!
She's got them in all conceivable styles,
From Italy, Belgium, the British Isles,
From Switzerland, France and the Isle of Man.
From Holland and Russia and Astrakhan!
Pictures of Paris, of London, of Rome,
The Tower, the Louvre, and St. Peter's dome,
The Sphinx and the Pyramids, Suez Canal.
The Rock of Gibraltar, Malta, Pall Mall!
Higgledy-piggledy, see! there they lie,
No trouble to write and so cheap to buy!
It's not the custom to write letters now;
People, it seems, have forgotten just how!
If of your movements, friends wish to keep track.
Just get a postal, with picture on back,
Then write the address and mail it—that's all!
The trouble is infinitestimally small.

PITHY PHILATELIC POINTS.

Sayings and Articles of Noted Writers

Carefully Condensed.

(By Geo. W. Starnaman.)

In looking for silk paper revenues of the first issue it is necessary to carefully scrutinize the entire stamp as the silk threads are few and far between, and not infrequently a minute portion of a single thread will be found on a specimen.—E. R. Aldrich.

Those stamps which are unsullied by the slightest suspicion of illegitimacy will in the end stand higher in the estimation of philatelists than the most gorgeous of speculative issues, and their market value must inevitably increase also. The era of speculation has had its palmiest days. Speculative issues must and will in the natural order of things, become exceedingly unpopular in the near future. And what will collectors turn to then, but the old issues, less brilliant, but more upright?—Lewis G. Quackenbush.

The publisher should lay aside a surplus while the stamp season is at its height and this would tide him over the quiet summer months and allow him to obtain some rest for himself and still keep his paper alive. Of course he would not refuse advertising or subscriptions, but he would not be obliged to do any begging in either line. The reduction in the number of advertisements appearing during the summer months of course lessens the competition and those that do advertise generally get good results.—W. W. Jewett.

Spain probably employs the punch to a greater extent than any other country, this being the manner of cancelling the stamps on telegrams. As no telegraph stamps are issued, the postage stamps are used in this way. Therefore, all stamps of this country cancelled with a small hole have been used to repay telegrams and deserve no place in a postage stamp collection. This sould be remembered when buying Spanish Stamps. Gordon C. Corbaley.

THE STORY OF THE PENNY POST.

An Interesting Article on British Postal History.

The development of the penny post has been a thing of slow degrees, as the subjoined table shows:

First penny post set up in London and suburbs by Robert Murray		1681
Adopted in Dublin		1774
Sir Rowland Hill first suggested his plan of penny post		1837
After investigation by a Committee of House of Commons, Hill's scheme was adopted, and came into force Jan. 10th		1840
Postage rates lowered	Oct.	1871
United States adopt penny post (two cents) for home letters	Oct.	1883
Canada and United States arrange a penny post		1888
Celebration of the jubilee of penny postage	Jan. 10-15	1890
Germany extends the advantage of penny post to her colonies and protectorates	May	1899
Imperial penny post established between Great Britain and every part of the British Empire, excepting Australia and New Zealand	Dec.	1899
Penny postage to Orange River Colony and Transvaal established	Dec.	1900
New Zealand adopts penny post to United Kingdom	Jan.	1901
Imperial penny post from Great Britain to New Zealand announced	April	1902
Also to Chinese ports	May	1902
Penny post to Australia introduced	April	1905
Penny Post to United States	Oct.	1908

The history of the "Post" in Great Britain is a long and romantic story. It covers over four centuries. From Edward I. to Edward VII. is a far cry. Early in the fifteenth century "posts" were established where horses could be had for hire by messengers wearing the royal livery; and in the reign of Edward IV., when the King was planning war with Scotland, a system of relays of horses was established in the north

THE STORY OF THE PENNY POST

Continued

in order to provide the monarch with the latest news in his camp. After an intermittent existence the "post" developed into the "post office" set up by the Government in 1568 for the delivery of letters from English merchants to foreign countries.

The first inland post as we know it to-day was established by Charles I., who in his proclamation of 1635 referred to the uncertainty of communication between England and Scotland. He formed a post to run night and day between London and Edinburgh, and to complete the return journey in six days. At the same time by-posts were connected with the principal towns lying off the main line of communication. The rates of postage for a single letter then were as follows:

Not exceeding 80 miles	2d.
Not exceeding 140 miles	4d.
Any greater distance in England	6d.
To Scotland	8d.

But the greatest of all names in Post Office history is that of Rowland Hill, whose great penny inland postage scheme was launched in 1840, after three years' effort and fierce opposition.

This article may fitly conclude with the story of the incident which led the great reformer to make up his mind finally for penny postage. He saw a postman deliver a folded sheet of paper—that was before the days of envelopes—to a women at a cottage in the Lake district. On hearing the fee to be paid she declined to take the missive, and handed it back. But her action covered a subtle device. She had really got her news by a stratagem. The "letter" had no writing on it. The sender was her brother in a distant part of the country. They had arranged that no news should be good news!

It pays to be honest—but it is not always possible to name the one who gets the pay.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who would rather go broke than break his word?

LOW PRICED STAMP SETS

No two stamps alike in any Set.

15	Argentine.	.10	
35	Austria	.10	
5	Austria (Turkey)	.04	
2	Austria (Crete) .	.04	
4	Azores	.05	
25	Belgium	.10	
5	Bermuda	.08	
6	Bardoer	.10	
10	Bolivia	.07	
12	Brazil	.10	
12	Bosnia	.15	
7	B. Guiana	.07	
2	Brunswick	.05	
25	Bulgaria	.20	
10	Costa Rica	.08	
3	orea	.06	
3	Crete	.04	
12	Cuba	.05	
50	Cuba	.50	
10	Chili	.03	
10	Ceylon	.14	
15	Columbia	.14	
8	China	.08	
10	Cape Good Hope.	.04	
25	Canada	.15	
20	Denmark	.07	
5	Dominican Republic	.05	
34	Dutch India (five)	.60	
5	Ecuador	.08	
10	Egypt	.06	
2	Fernando Poo . .	.10	
4	Fiji	.10	
20	France	.07	
25	Germany	.08	
25	Great Britain . . .	.08	
10	Greece	.05	
10	Guatemala	.08	
10	Hawaii	.20	
15	Hayti	.30	
8	Honduras	.30	
8	Hong Kong	.10	
20	Hungary	.08	
3	Iceland	.05	
20	India	.10	
30	Italy	.10	
10	Jamaica	.10	
25	Japan	.15	
10	Luxemburg	.06	
4	Malta	.05	
50	Mexico	1.00	
10	Mauritius	.20	
25	Mexican Revenues	.10	
30	Netherlands	.20	
10	Newfoundland . .	.40	
10	New South Wales	.10	
20	New Zealand . . .	.10	
15	Nicaragua	.12	
4	Orange River . . .	.08	
10	Panama	.25	
10	Persia	.10	
25	Peru	.25	
8	Philippines	.06	
20	Porcugal	.06	
10	Porto Rico	.15	
5	Prussia	.12	
15	Queensland	.30	
20	Roumania	.06	
20	Russia	.18	
20	Salvador	.15	
15	Servia	.15	
20	Turkey	.07	
50	U.S. cut envelopes	.25	
100	U. S.	.25	

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WITH THE EDITOR.

Here I am with four more pages. If the good work keeps up will have some more soon. "Boost" all you can, and let us make this magazine a "hummer."

While there is considerable interest shown in literature matters of late, it has been, comparatively speaking, among only a few. Some speak of a lack of really good American papers, while there are collectors in England and the continent that do take an interest in about all the papers of the U. S. and Canada. Collectors expecting, at some future time, to build a philatelic library will wake up to the stubborn fact that most of the letter American papers are in foreign hands. Collectors of stamps have already found this out and now if they wish the best U. S. they must go elsewhere.

The question has been asked several times why we cannot have a Publishers Protective Association. Well, we see no reason why there cannot be such, the idea is to give publishers protection against dead beat advertisers. It seems next to impossible to publish a paper and not get, at least, a few names on your books that turn out bad. There need be but little "Red Tape' or regulations in connection with it; simply a small assessment from each member to meet expenses, with a statement of account and list of dead beats up to date. What say you publishers?

Great Britain had the honor of having originated the post mark. The first one, which was used in London in 1660, was a very simple affair, consisting of a small circle, divided in two parts. In the top portion were two letters indicating the month, while in the lower half the day of the month was shown. No endeavor was made to denote the year.

We do not profess to know everything, but we do our best to answer any questions sent us. If you are puzzled on any point, ask us. No matter what subject you want to know about we will try and find an answer for you. If unable to answer ourselves, we will publish the question and perhaps one of our readers will furnish the desired information.

If you have something to sell or trade try an advt. in the Exchange and For Sale columns of this magazine.

OFFERS IN ODDS AND ENDS

3 different Colonial bills ..... .80
1 big Tempo—Japan .10
½ sen, Japan ..... .05
1 sen, Japan ..... .05
2 sen, Japan ..... .10
¼ bu, rectangular silver ..... .30
1 bu, rectangular silver ..... .60
Corea, 2 pieces copper-brass ..... .15
Hong Kong, 3 pieces. .15
1908 cent, S. mint, new .15
1909 Lincoln V. D. B. S. mint ..... .12
1909 Lincoln V. D. B. S. mint ..... .15
1910 Lincoln, V. D. B. S. mint ..... .06
100 different pieces paper—5 cents to $100—all good to one. 5.00
2 North Borneo ..... .15
1000 different stamps 1.75
100 foreign revenues Centennial Fountain Medal 1906. .15
10 Union War Envelope ..... .50
10½ dinier U. S. silver ..... .75
20 different small silver 1.50
$100 bill, old, not perfect ..... .15
England big penny 1797 ..... .20
England big 2 penny 1797 ..... .60
64 page catalog coins, Indian curios and 3 Oriental coins. .10
$100.00 Canada paper .25
10 Confederate bills perfect ..... .25

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Can use in exchange Canada paper money, etc

W. F. GREANY

890 Guerrero St., San Francisco, Cal.

MONKS' MILLIONS OF STAMPS.

Between nine and ten million stamps are employed in the decoration of the walls of the refectory of the Hospice of St. Jean de Dieu at Ghent, says "Tit-Bits."

For years the monks have utilized their leisure time in the formation of landscape from bits of stamps, and at a distance one would never believe that only stamps have been used in their making, so rich are the colorings and so perfect the drawings.

The idea originated with one of the brothers, who made a small picture of the patron saint of the hospice on the walls of his cell.

Appreciating the beauty of his work, the prior suggested that he devote his unique talent to the decoration of the walls of the refectory, and with the assistance of ohers among the brotherhood the monk has devoted years to the work, which stands unique among art productions.

Seen close at hand the work resembles mosaic, but from across the room the bits blend so well together as to suggest oils. Only three sides of the room are yet completed, and contributions of stamps are constantly being received from visitors who have seen the work and have become interested.

British railway companies are most scrupulous in keeping their agreement with the postal authorities not to sell railway letter stamps to the general public. In Bavaria, a very different state of things prevails. The Bavarian stamps surcharged "E" ("Eisenbahm") are being retailed through the agency of a stamp dealer in Munich at a fixed tariff. Bavaria also sells its unpaid letter stamps (according to the "Philatelic Record") and the customer at the Post Office may have them unused or obliterated, just as he pleases! We suppose that if a large quantity is taken they will be sent home to the purchaser's hotel! No wonder Bavaria clings tenaciously to her separate postal issues!

A woman has about as much use for a man who doesn't admire her as a fatted calf has for a prodigal son.

A SPECIAL OFFER

My Packet No. 16, contains 50 all different foreign stamps. They catalogue never less than $2.50, often more than $3.00 My regular price for this packet is 60c in itself very low. But, FOR A LIMITED TIME I will sell it to NEW CUSTOMERS at the very special price of 28c, postpaid, not more than two packets to a customer at this price. Remit by unused stamps, (U.S., Canadian or English) or by Money Order.

And to anyone buying this packet who sends reference and asks for my money saving approvals, I will send a stamp catalogue, 20c or more, absolutely FREE. "Once a customer, always a customer!"

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All paper reproducing this adv. 6 times will receive same space.

THE RURAL CARRIER.

The rural postman, day by day, goes on his long and toilsome way, and takes the farmers' mail; he jogs across the hills and moors and much of hardship he endures for small supply of kale. I've seen him driving through the rain, but never knew him to complain or read the riot act; he pushed his tired old nag along and greeted with a cheerful song the cold wet cataract. I've seen him when the blizzard blew, I've seen him when the snowstorm snew, but never heard him roar; serene he drives along the trail and leaves the farmer's green goods mail in tin box by the door. I've seen him when the roads were rough, and when the raw winds were enough to make a mummy cuss; he jolted o'er the ruts and stones that dislocated all his bones, and never raised a fuss. His wages make a paltry heap, and half of it must go to keep his wagon in repair, to manicure his trusty bay and keep its stomach full of hay, but he does not despair. I've seen no rural postman yet who made it his life work to fret and whine about his lot; when duty calls him to the road, without complaint he takes his load, a Johnny on the spot.

WALT MASON.

Note.—The Editor read this in a local newspaper the other day and considered it would be "just the thing" to place here.

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Latest reports show that this society is in a more prosperous condition than it has been for some time past. The membership roll has started to grow. A collector of stamps most certainly ought to belong to some good society and to Canadian collectors we must strongly recommend the Canadian society.

Have you subscribed yet?

Join the Canadian Philatelic Society.

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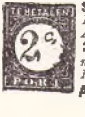

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PAPERS REPRINTED.

The ½d. Line-Engraved, Great Britain.

(From the "British Philatelist.")

The last of the line-engraved series is the small One Half-penny, which came into use at the same time as the previous value of Three Halfpence.

This value was introduced in connection with the reduced rate of postage on Inland newspapers, printed matter, and patterns or samples, which was to take effect as from the 1st October, 1870.

The design, which was oblong in shape, and measured only 18mm. by 14mm., consisted of a diminutive diademmed profile of Queen Victoria to left, in a plain oval within a rectangular frame, of which the ground was mechanically engraved in a lattice-work pattern.

At each corner was a square block to contain the small sans-serif check letters, which ran from "A-A, A-A" to "X-T, T-X," there being four hundred and eighty stamps on the sheet, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twenty-four each; and at each side of the frame, on a ground of solid color, was "½d." in white—this was the only inscription.

The plate number, in small Arabic figures, will be found on the lattice-work at the sides of the oval medallion.

The inscription in the margins were similar to those of the previous values, the prices being "½d. per label, 1/- per row of 24, £1 per sheet"; and the plate number was engraved at the four corners of, and the current number above and below, the pane of stamps.

For this value a special paper was manufactured, with the watermark of half penny in script, extending over the space of three stamps, and the words Postage Stamps, also in script, appeared in the end margins of the sheet.

The plates ran from 1 to 20, but it was wound necessayr to reject some, viz.:—plate 2, after being half finished, was found to be imperfect; plate 7, or rather its roller, was defective, and could not be used; plate 16, could not be finished, as the roller broke; and the rollers of plates 17 and 18 cracked after a very few impressions had been taken.

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PAPERS REPRINTED

Continued

Plate 1 was put to press on the 20th June, 1870, and plate 20 on the 27th June, 1879. Two more plates, Nos. 21 and 22, were made, but were never put to press.

The color of the impression was lake-red similar to that of the One Penny and like it varied in tone and in depth of shade.

With a few exceptions all the sheets were perforated before being issued the gauge being the usual one of 14 to the two centimetres. There was one noticeable difference between this and the other values; the perforation instead of being applied in horizontal rows was begun at the side with the result that the sheets were perforated in vertiele rows and that one of the two outside rows was left imperforate on either the left or right. Copies with the right side imperforate are lettered "X-A A-X" to "X-T T-X," and those with left side imperforate, "A-A, A-A" to "A-T, T-A."

There was a large demand for stamps of this value, and during the ten years they were in use no less than 1,837,200,000 were printed.

Plate 9 was at one time supposed not to have been put to press; it was, however, brought into use towards the end of 1871, but copies from it are comparatively scarce.

Synopsis of the One Half-Penny.

1st October, 1870—lake-red; on half penny"; Perforated 14. Varieties: Imperforate, 4 or 5 plates.

Earliest Known Date.

½d. lake-red ..... 1.10.1870.

All the Perkins, Bacon line-engraved stamps were, in 1880, superseded by the surface-printed labels of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

If you like this copy send in your subscription at once.

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